

A Summary of 29 CFR 1910.147

The standard was published on September 1, 1989, and amended on September 20, 1990. The effective date in North Carolina was July 5, 1990. The summary below offers a quick integrated grasp of the standard, but it is not a substitute for the standard.

29 CFR 1910.147(a)—*Scope, application, and purpose*

(1) *Scope*

- (i) *Covers*: the servicing and maintenance of machines and equipment in which the unexpected energization or start up of the machines or equipment or the release of stored energy could cause injury to employees.
- (ii) *Does not cover*: (A) construction, agriculture and maritime employment; (B) electric utilities; (C) electrical exposures covered by Subpart S; and (D) oil and gas well drilling and servicing.

(2) *Application*

- (i) *Applies*: during servicing and/or maintenance.
- (ii) *Does not apply*: to normal production operations.
Servicing and/or maintenance that takes place during normal production operations is covered only if (A) an employee is required to remove or bypass a guard or other safety device or (B) an employee is required to place any part of his or her body in a danger zone.
- (iii) *Does not apply*: to (A) work on cord and plug connected equipment that is unplugged and under control of an employee; (B) gas, steam, water or petroleum hot tap operations under specified circumstances.

(3) *Purpose*

- (i) *Requires employers*: to establish a program and use procedures for affixing appropriate lockout devices or tagout devices to energy isolating devices and to disable machines or equipment to prevent unexpected energization, start-up, or release of stored energy in order to prevent injury to employees.

29 CFR 1910.147(b)—*Definitions*

- *Affected employee*: An employee who performs the duties of his or her job in an area in which the energy control procedure is implemented and servicing or maintenance operations are performed. An affected employee does not perform servicing or maintenance on machines or equipment and, consequently, is not responsible for implementing the energy control procedure. An affected employee becomes an “authorized” employee whenever he or she performs servicing or maintenance functions on machines or equipment that must be locked or tagged.
- *Authorized employee*: An employee who performs servicing or maintenance on machines and equipment. Lockout or tagout is used by these employees for their own protection.
- *Capable of being locked out*: energy isolating device designed for attachment of a lock or has a locking mechanism built into it.
- *Energized*: connected to an energy source or containing residual or stored energy.
- *Energy-isolating device*: mechanical device which physically prevents the transmission or release of energy (does not include a push button, selector switch and other control devices).
- *Energy source*: any source of electrical, mechanical, hydraulic, pneumatic, chemical, thermal or other energy.
- *Hot tap*: procedure used in repair, maintenance and service involving welding on pipelines, vessels or tanks under pressure in order to install connections or appurtenances.
- *Lockout*: placement of a lockout device on an energy-isolating device to prevent operation.
- *Lockout device*: device that uses a positive means, such as a lock, to hold an energy-isolating device in the safe position.
- *Servicing and/or maintenance*: workplace activities such as adjusting; cleaning; constructing; inspecting; installing; lubricating; maintaining and/or servicing machines or equipment; modifying; setting up; and tool changing.